

blind man, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam," the man believed the assurance implied in our Lord's injunction, that he would by this means receive his sight; therefore he went and washed, doing as he was told, and came again seeing. John 9:7.

The term faith is used in the same sense in common language. Inquiring the road, I am told that the right hand road is the safest and easiest. On the faith of this information, that is, giving credit to my informant, I take the road recommended to me. Again, a friend sends me a message, requesting me to meet him at a certain place at a certain hour. On the faith of his implied promise that he will meet me there, I repair to the appointed place.

Again, a known impostor assures me that, by following his direction, and paying me well for his advice, I shall enjoy long life and prosperity. I have no faith in such assurances, that is, I give no credit to such declarations; therefore I pay no regard to them.

Faith in Christ in respect to its reality and efficacy, may be called living faith; whereas its counterfeit, which can have no efficacy, is properly called dead faith. James 2:17. This dead or unproductive faith is not a different kind of faith from the live or true; it is, strictly speaking, not faith at all, even as a counterfeit piece of money is not actually money, or as a dead man is no man in the true sense of the term. Faith in Christ, in respect to the blessings connected with it, is called justifying, or saving faith. Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:8. In respect to its effects on the heart and dispositions, it is purifying or sanctifying faith. Acts 15:9.

In respect to its object, it is the faith of the Son of God, or the faith of Christ. Gal. 2:16-20. In respect to its author, it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8. To live by faith, or walk by faith, is to have the life regulated by an habitual prevailing regard to those doctrines, and invisible realities which are revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures. A person may be said to live a life of faith when the influence of spiritual invisible objects prevails in regulating his judgment, his affections, and his conduct assisted by the outward and inward evidences.

The Christian is fully persuaded in his mind that the Christian religion is no myth but a firm reality; and that by living up to the principles of his religion, he is sure to gain a victory for eternal peace, happiness, and blessedness.

Conemaugh, Pa.

The principles of peace will prevail among the nations only as the gospel of Christ is given sway. To promote peace, preach Christ.

Home Circle

BABY

A little form, so dainty, small,
So soft, so tender, and so dear;
A little voice whose helpless call
Is music to a mother's ear;
A little pulse of delicate breath,
Like Eve's when Zephyr whispereth;
A little arm that nervless lies;
Red, curling fingers, tiniest things;
Two round, blue, upward-gazing eyes,
All filled with silent wonderings,
That, as the kiss of heaven's light bids,
Now ope, now close their downy lids;
A little head, so smooth and white,
Pert, rosy mouth and fairy chin,
And cheeks all rounded to the sight,
Save where a dimple draws them in;
All in one tiny frame enwove,
As light as laughter, soft as love.

—A. Trego Webb.

TEAR IT UP

Secretary Stanton was once greatly vexed because an army officer had refused to understand an order, or at all events, had not obeyed.

"I believe I'll sit down," said Stanton to President Lincoln, and give that man a piece of my mind.

"Do so," said Mr. Lincoln, write it now, while you have it in your mind. Make it sharp; cut him all up.

Stanton did not need a second invitation. It was a bone-crusher that he read to the President.

"That's right," said Mr. Lincoln, "that's a good one."

"Whom can I get to send it by?" mused the Secretary.

"Send it!" replied Lincoln, send it! Why, don't send it at all. Tear it up. You have freed your mind on the subject, and that is all that is necessary. Tear it up. You never want to send such letters; I never do.

STOPPING THE SCHOOL BELL

It was the first day of school after the vacation, says an exchange. The children were playing in the yards. The teachers sat at their desks waiting for the bell to strike to call the children to the different rooms. The hands of the different clocks pointed to a quarter before nine.

The bell was a sort of gong, fastened to the outside of the building, and the master of the school could ring it by pulling a knob in the wall near his desk. It was now time to call the children into school. The master pulled the bell, and waited. Still the merry shouts could be heard in the school-yards. Very strange! The children were so engaged in play that they could not hear the bell, he thought. Then he pulled it more vigorously. Still the shouts and laughter continued.

The master raised his window, clapped his hands, and pointed to the bell. The children rushed into line like little sol-

diers, and waited for the second signal. The teacher pulled and pulled, but there was no sound. Then he sent a boy to tell each line to file in, and he sent another boy for a carpenter to find out if the bell-cord was broken.

What do you think the carpenter found? A little sparrow had built its nest inside the bell, and prevented the hammer striking against the bell. The teacher told the children what the trouble was, and asked if the nest should be taken out. There was a loud chorus of "No, sir."

Every day the four hundred children would gather in the yard, and look up at the nest. When the little birds were able to fly to the trees in the yard, and no longer needed a nest, one of the boys climbed on a ladder and cleared away the straw and hay, so that the sound of the bell might call the children from their play.

SHOULD HE SMOKE?

Dr. Oliver Wendle Holmes, eminent in literature, philosophy, and medicine, on being asked if a young man desiring to attain success in life should smoke, answered: "Certainly not. It is liable to injure the sight, to render the nerves unsteady, to enfeeble the will, and to enslave the nature to an imperious habit likely to stand in the way of duty to be performed." Boys and young men will do well to clip this item and paste it in their hats. The fact is, a young man may just as reasonably expect his watch to keep good time after he has poured tar or vinegar into its wheelwork as to expect his brain to work quickly and accurately after he has benumbed it with tobacco smoke, or his nervous system and his digestion to continue healthy while persistently subjected to the prostrating, debilitating efforts of the poisonous nicotine.

BRANDY WOULD HAVE BEEN STILL WORSE.

A foreign publication tells us that in a Pullman car on an English railway a young traveller seeing an old gentleman putting on his overcoat hastened to assist him. While doing this the young man saw a flask, such as liquor is carried in, peeping from the pocket of the overcoat, and at once thought he saw a good opportunity for a practical joke. When he had finished helping the stranger, he secretly drew the flask from the pocket, and said, "Won't you take a drink, sir?" The old gentleman did not recognize his flask, and withdrawing the flask from the young man answered in a serious tone, "No, sir, I never drink." "It won't do you any harm," insisted the young joker. "Young man," said the gentleman, loud enough to be heard by all who were in the car, "if you go on drinking, at forty years old you will be ruined. Brandy